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The Spectator

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College welcomes Brown University Professor Melvin Rogers in observance of Constitution Day

by Melanie Snyder '20
News Editor

The 230th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States took place over the weekend on Sunday, Sept. 17. President Trump proclaimed the date both as Constitution Day and Citizenship Day so as to recognize the adoption of the Constitution in 1787, as well as those who have become U.S. citizens since its adoption.

Hamilton College, and specifically the Government Department, observed the national holiday by inviting Professor Melvin L. Rogers, PhD, to deliver a Constitution Day lecture, titled "Democratic Faith: Thomas Jefferson, the People, and Early Black Politics," in the Red Pit on Monday, Sept.18.

Rogers is currently an Associate Professor of Political Science at Brown University, where he focuses on African-American moral and political philosophy. He is the author and editor of numerous published works and is currently at work on several other projects as well. In light of his busy schedule, Rogers was able to speak at Hamilton, which he mentioned shared a familiar environment with his alma maters, Bowdoin and Amherst. He noted the tendency of liberal arts colleges in rural areas to lend themselves to tight-knit communities of intellectual discourse.

In concurrence with the observance of Citizenship Day along with Constitution Day, Rogers opened his lecture with reference to the "great shock" that most non-white American citizens encounter in their lives – the shock that their race is in opposition to their inclusion in America. He labeled the struggle of racial progress in America as a problem "of the grand experiment of democracy."

The struggle for racial progress in America, according to Rogers, began upon the adoption of the Constitution, and it remains a struggle in 2017. From Post-Antebellum, to Jim Crow, to the Civil Rights Era, to Black Lives Matter, Rogers explained that each movement has attempted to address the "differential status" of African Americans that has been too frequently ignored.

According to Rogers, while still often neglected, as evident in the founding of the Black Lives Matter movement in 2013, the progress made by African-Americans throughout history is nevertheless visible today. African American strides in the direction of fairness and equality has manifested itself in the Constitution.

Thus, when Rogers raised the question in his speech, "How do we work for progress when there is no guarantee it will be realized," his answer returned to the law of land. The Constitution offers a solution to the skeptical and uncertain endeavor for progress, as does one of its most highly credited authors, Thomas Jefferson.

Before his discussion of the Constitution, Rogers impressed his listeners with his extensive knowledge and deep understanding of slavery in America, including the Abolitionist Movement. He focused on two abolitionists and outstanding figures in American history: Martin Delaney and Frederick Douglass. Both African American, both abolitionists, and both writers, they held almost opposite views on racial progress.

Delaney, as Rogers described in so many words, had little hope in the American polity as it was. Delaney claimed he would struggle for equality if there was any hope of its realization, but he believed there was none. Delaney was discouraged in part by the Fugitive Slave Law, which he saw as the "underlying culture of American society" and "an expression of American politics" at the time. Figures like Delaney once used the term "moral monstrosity" to described the Fugitive Slave Law. Thus, Rogers presented the question to us in the audience, is Delaney correct? He suggested that we may still hear the echoes of Delaney in the Black Lives Matter movement who preach the "moral monstrosity" of the premature deaths of black Americans and the unwarranted violence law enforcement inflicts upon them.

PHOTO BY MELANIE SNYDER '19

Professor Robert Martin hosts Melvin Rogers, Professor of Political Science at Brown University.

In contrast, Rogers offered the perspective of Delaney's peer and colleague, the well-known author Frederick Douglass, and described Douglass's attitude as more optimistic. Douglass had faith in the transformation of white Americans, which he argued directly to Delaney himself.

Rogers settled the discourse between these two historical figures in his speech by presenting a third figure; Thomas Jefferson. Rogers proposed that Jefferson might offer insight into African American progress not because he was uniquely sympathetic or felt black pain, but rather because of his contribution to the constitution.

Rogers described Jefferson's ideals as "Democratic Perfectionism," because they are based on the aspirations of the people, that is, the people not yet in existence, embodied the famous first phrase of the constitution, "we the people." As a founding father, Jefferson famously embraced the "spirit of openness in the people," as Rogers described. Jefferson acknowledged that "the people" referred to in the Constitution includes the people of the past as well as the people of the future. "We" refers to the "we" of political life today.

Jefferson believed in keeping pace with the times, as Rogers acknowledged. Jefferson understood the Constitution as a document that is forever unfolding and that therefore forces us to embrace a vision of America for future generations. The construction and reconstruction of our political world, unlike Delaney's assertion, is not a dream. It is, according to Jefferson, the most essential principal the Constitution.

During his lecture, Rogers continued to assert that, because of its ever-changing quality, "citizenship" as a question can never be officially settled, since it would undermine the changeability of the Constitution. "We the people" should remain purposely ambiguous, otherwise Delaney would be correct in his rendering of the polity unchangeable.

Rogers ended his discussion of progress with the notion of fate. He argued that the uncertainty of political progress can never be avoided, and the only way to combat it is through fate. Rogers stated, "Faith stands in the present with the perspective of the future." Black Lives Matter operates on this belief in fate, and insists on change in the name of progress, as Rogers explained, "they are asking you to accept the position that America is not set in stone."

Roger's encouraged his audience to entertain the possibility that there are aspirations unbeknownst to us that have yet to be recognized, just as there were in Delaney and Douglas and Jefferson's times. Ultimately, Rogers conveyed through the voices of the past that the voices of the future are perfectly capable of changing their world, just as are we, the people of today.

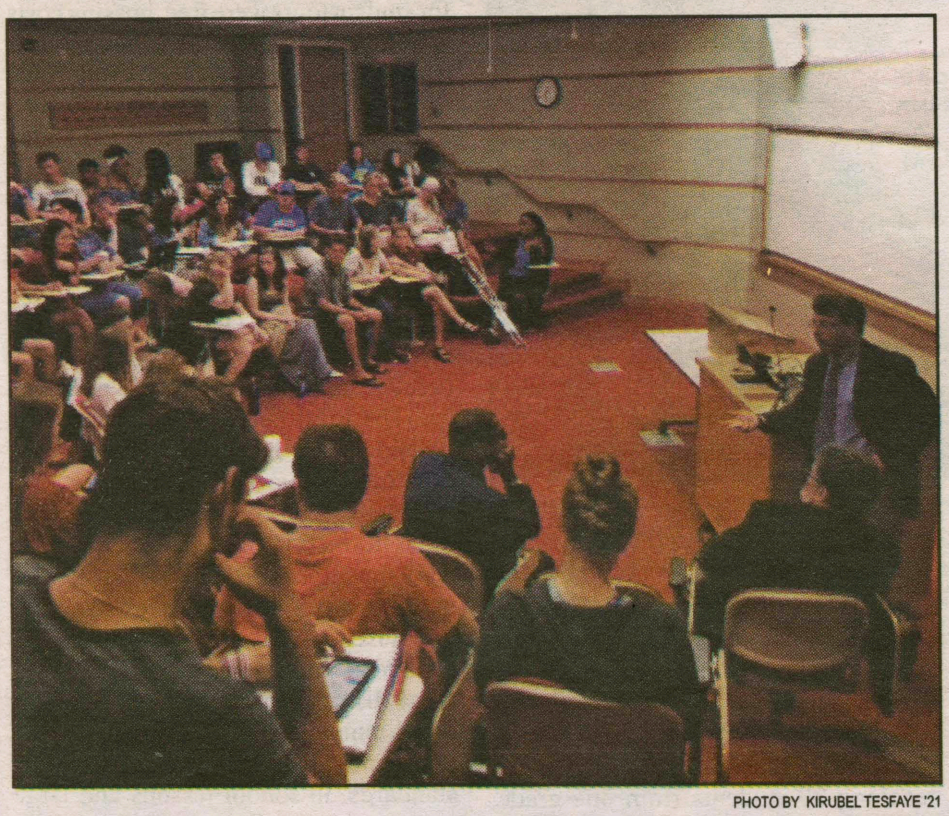

PHOTO BY KIRUBEL TESFAYE '21

Students gather in the Red Pit to listen to Constitution Day Lecture on Monday evening.

Downtown Clinton hosts the 12th annual Democracts "Gathering on the Green"

by Sarah Salimi '20
NEWS EDITOR

This past Saturday, Sept. 17, the 12th annual "Gathering on the Green" occurred in Clinton. The event was co-hosted by The Town of Kirkland Democratic Committee and the Hamilton College Democrats.

The event was a rally for Democratic candidates running for several different levels of office within the 10 different voting districts that make up the town of Kirkland. Approximately 100 people attended, in addition to one donkey.

Perhaps the most noteworthy attendee was Anthony Brindisi, the Democratic nominee for the 22nd Congressional District of New York. He seeks to replace Congresswoman Claudia Tenney (R).

Brindisi, 38, is a native of Utica, New York. He received his J.D. from Albany Law School, went on to be a three-term State Assembly member – a position which he continues to hold. Jobs, economy, education, and health care have been the focus of his campaign.

According to Ian Baize '18, co-President of Hamilton College Democrats, "Anthony Brindisi is a promising and passionate candidate, and the organizational efforts already underway can help make this a competitive district with a real shot of flipping once again," as it almost did in the 2016 election.

PHOTO COURTESY OF *THE SPECTATOR*

The Clinton Green hosted the Democratic nominees of the 22nd Congressional District of New York on Saturday

Brindisi's challenger in the upcoming election, Claudia Tenney, is a Republican incumbent in a red district. Tenney has a background in law and owns her own practice in Clinton, in addition to the communications company Tenney Media Group. She has also worked as the Consulate General of Yugoslavia. Despite having lost the 2014 Congressional Republican primary, she won in 2016, replacing the more moderate Republican Richard Hanna upon his retirement.

Other candidates at the event were running for positions at more local levels. These included: Bob Meelan for Town Supervisor, Garry Colarusso for Town Council, Amy Smith for Town Clerk, Chad Davis for County Legislator, Jon Scott for Highway Superintendent, Jay Williams for Town Justice, Sarah McCullough for Receiver of Taxes, and Julie Giruzzi-Mosca for Oneida County Family Court Judge.

In speaking to the importance of this event, Baize explained that local politics should not be dismissed because they offer important opportunities for engagement, stating, "local politics are fascinating and hugely important even if they're not as flashy as the stuff we see in the national news every day. Activist groups and local campaigns are always looking for volunteers and interns, and getting involved at the

see page 3

Art educator explains disconnect between community and Wellin Museum

by Gabriela Foster '18
NEWS WRITER

This week, the Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art at Hamilton College hosted the concluding presentation for the two-year Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-funded research project conducted by Amber Geary. Research focused on answering the following question: Why do teachers use or do not use museums in curriculum?

Starting in Sept. 2015 and culminating in Aug. 2017, Geary's research used a variety of techniques to understand why teachers from K-12 public schools in the area were not bringing their students on field trips to the Wellin Museum.

Since the museum does not charge for school tours, Geary believed that that this would be an attractive option for local schools. Despite this incentive, teachers were not visiting the museum. To figure out why, Geary sat down with local administrators and teachers to understand why teachers were not attending the museums. Many indicated that the introduction of the Common Core played an important role in evaluating whether or not a field trip was a viable option.

The Common Core focuses on four main principles: higher-order thinking skills, critical thinking, homogenized learning and college and career readiness.

Teachers and district administrators were sampled from 3 surrounding counties: Oneida County with 15 school districts and 72 schools, Herkimer with 11 districts, and 25 schools and Madison with 10 districts. Research consisted of focus groups or "teacher think tanks", questionnaires, conversations, events, pilot programs and survey's after tours of Wellin. Of these, there were 3 focus groups, 13 personal interviews and 123 questionnaires. At the beginning, Geary faced difficulty in getting teachers to respond to the questionnaires and interviews. Using incentives such as gift cards to Amazon and Wellin Museum totes proved effective.

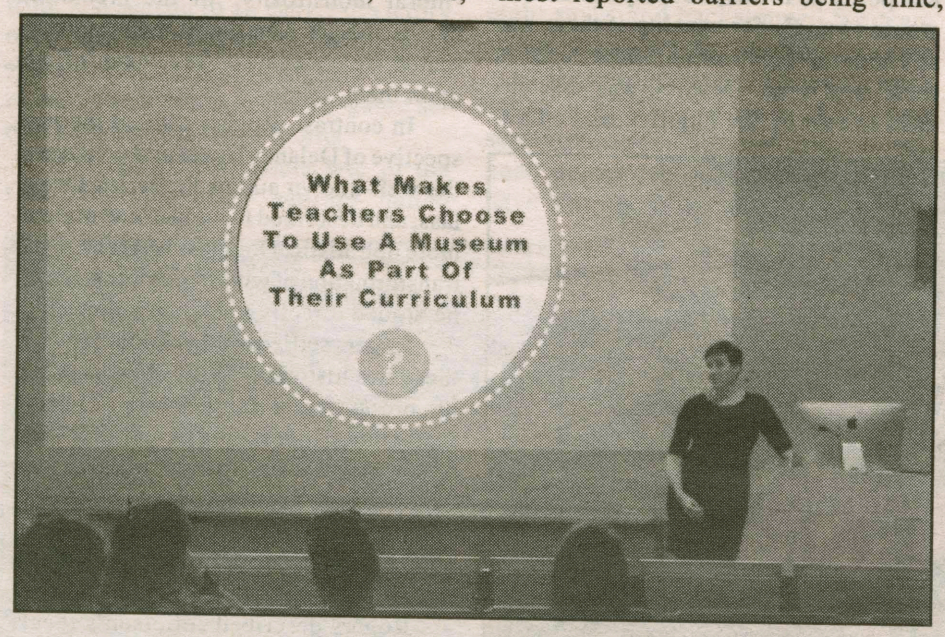

PHOTO BY DAN TU '20

Amber Geary presents research findings on public schools to College Tuesday afternoon.

With 141 original responses, Geary determined that there were three main barriers to teachers integrating museum tours into their curriculum. The three most reported barriers being time, money and defendability.

K-12 teachers must accommodate their own test schedules, as well as other teachers' schedules. This was especially true for art teachers, who instead of teaching 20 students from one grade, teach 400 students from every grade. Organizing a field trip becomes a time consuming and difficult process. Additionally, leaving the classroom and potentially missing tests reflects poorly on the teachers themselves, who are evaluated based on student test performance.

Geary's findings also revealed that money played an important role in getting the local community involved. Although admission and tours to Wellin for student tours were free, bussing costs were not. Paying for a bus, lunches for the children, and substitute teachers to cover for visiting teachers proved to be a significant barrier for schools, especially because the region has a high poverty rate.

Used as a proxy measure for poverty, the percentage of students getting free and reduced lunches was reviewed for the three counties. Oneida County came in at 54.2 percent, Herkimer at 58.2 percent, and Madison at 43.7 percent.

The third and final indicator was defendability, or whether or not teachers could argue that a field trip to a museum fit into the curriculum. With the introduction of the Common Core, it becomes more difficult for teachers to align field trips with curriculum.

Based on this research, Geary has expanded the menu of offerings for local districts, providing professional development opportunities to get the field trip to qualify under administrative standards, in school lessons and large group accommodations.

PHOTO COURTESY OF *THE SPECTATOR*

The Clinton Green hosted the Democratic nominees of the 22nd Congressional District of New York on Saturday.

from **Downton Clinton**, *page 2*

town or county level is a great way to see for yourself what real politics looks like."Considering the fact that local politics can often have "more immediate impacts for life in and around Clinton than anything at the federal level," it becomes even more necessary to be attentive to local political matters.

Change in Title IX guidelines may impact colleges across the country

by Isabel Kierstead '21
NEWS CONTRIBUTOR

On Sept. 7, United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced that the Department of Education would begin a rollback of Obama-era Title IX guidelines. DeVos has not yet specified timetable for the implementation of these policies.

Title IX is a federal law designed to eliminate gender discrimination for federally funded educational programs.

The legal argument posits that when a person is sexually assaulted, they do not have the civil right of equal access to education, which Title IX promises, due to long-lasting emotional and physical effects.

In 2011, the Obama administration issued the "2011 Dear Colleague Letter," which requires all colleges to employ a Title IX Coordinator, to provide interim measures, such as no contact orders or room changes to students currently undergoing investigation procedures, and calls for a "preponderance of evidence" standard for cases, which dictates that if there are "50 percent plus a feather," chances that the assault occurred, then the respondent should be found guilty.

DeVos has spoken out against the "preponderance of evidence" standard the most, citing that it is an unfair standard for respondents.

On Sept. 8, the Dean of Students Office responded to DeVos' announcement in an all-school email stating, "Hamilton takes this issue very seriously. We assess our practices regularly to ensure that we comply with current law and to make certain that we respond fairly, sensitively, and promptly to students who come forward with complaints and students who are accused of misconduct. "

Many college organizations are discussing how to handle this potential change. Last Tuesday, Sept. 12, the Womxn's Center and Sexual Misconduct and Assault Reform Taskforce (SMART) co-hosted an open meeting to involve students and faculty on the discussion of DeVos' statements and to gauge the initial reactions from the Hamilton community.

SMART policy commitee co-chair Bridget Lavin '18 says, "We're concerned students. We want to be active and involved students who are engaging with the national conversation about sexual assault and Title IX. If [DeVos] were to [rollback the guidelines], [it] would drastically affect the way sexual misconduct, harassment and assault are handled on campus."

Lavin also voiced concerns regarding the impact that rolling back Title IX regulations might have on survivors and their willingness to report. "[The rollbacks will] further embed rape culture into the way others view survivors who report. This will most likely decrease the number of survivors who find the courage to report."

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. The entire report is available in the online edition of *The Spectator.* Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Monday, September 11, 2017

3:26 A.M.	Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
7:35 A.M.	Fire Alarm – Buttrick Hall
5:37 P.M.	Assist – Campus Road
8:33 P.M.	Marijuana Complaint – Babbitt Hall Exterior
10:00 P.M.	Marijuana Complaint – Fieldhouse

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

2:55 A.M.	Area Check – Burke Library
7:01 P.M.	Trouble Alarm – C.A. Johnson Hall
10:56 P.M.	Noise Complaint – Dunham Hall

Wednesday, September 13

2:55 A.M.	Area Check – Burke Library
7:01 P.M.	Trouble Alarm – C.A. Johnson Hall
10:56 P.M.	Noise Complaint – Dunham Hall

Thursday, September 14

11:30 A.M.	Smoke Detector – Eells Residence Hall
4:53 P.M.	Motorist Assist – College Hill Road
5:47 P.M.	Smoke Detector – Griffin Road Apts.
6:59 P.M.	Smoke Detector – Babbitt Hall
7:54 P.M.	Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall
10:45 P.M.	Mechanical Issue – Bundy Dining Hall

Friday, September 15

3:41 A.M.	Smoke Detector – Griffin Road Apts.
5:11 A.M.	Trouble Alarm – Blood Fitness Center
6:43 P.M.	Marijuana Complaint – Babbitt Hall Exterior
8:27 P.M.	Area Check – McIntosh Hall Exterior

Saturday, September 16

1:45 A.M.	Area Check – College Hill Rd.
12:04 P.M.	Marijuana Complaint – Kirner Johnson Exterior
2:11 P.M.	Marijuana Complaint – Babbitt Hall Exterior
3:00 P.M.	Animal Complaint – Root Lot
6:01 P.M.	Area Check – Golf Course
6:18 P.M.	Assist Event Staff – Babbitt Pavilion
8:20 P.M.	Disorderly Conduct – CSO/Eells Residence Hall
8:05 P.M.	Noise Complaint – Eells Residence Hall
11:18 P.M.	Smoke Detector – Milbank Hall
11:56 P.M.	Noise Complaint – Milbank Hall

Sunday, September 17

12;31 A.M.	Fire Alarm – North Hall
12:32 A.M.	Marijuana Complaint – Pritchard Track
12:58 A.M.	Underage Alcohol Possession – North Hall
1:13 A.M.	Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall
2:25 A.M.	Trespass – Martin's Way

An expression of gratitude

The Hamilton community is enriched every day by a strong and dedicated group of professors. From introductory classes, to thesis seminars, to casual conversations in Opus, Hamilton's professors take any chance they get to challenge, support, and better their students inside and outside of the classroom. Despite the tumultuous social and political climate, both on and off the Hill, the quality of Hamilton professors remains unequivocally strong and steady.

Hamilton professors take a genuine interest in the success of their students, and their dedication does not go unnoticed. Students feel comfortable approaching professors to discuss the difficulties of college, ask for life advice, and hone academic skills. Professors are extraordinarily receptive to late-night emails and desperate meeting requests. As long as students are putting forth the effort, professors are more than willing to meet us halfway in our pursuit of a better final product.

Above all, professors are willing to work both with and for students in order to best prepare us for our eventual lives off the Hill. Whether they are supporting students at sports games and performances, hosting lectures and events in their fields of expertise, advising students in times of academic and personal crisis, or simply just being trusted confidants, Hamilton's professors go above and beyond the call of duty.

As we at *The Spectator* continue our Hamilton careers – either as Seniors, Juniors, or underclassmen – our professors promise to provide a consistent and unabating support structure from which we all benefit.

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The Spectator is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board. A volunteer staff of students handles all aspects of the weekly publication. The purpose of the newspaper is to provide the Hamilton Community with an honest, fair, timely, and high-quality publication.

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Celebrating 170 years, we were first published as The Radiator *in 1847.*

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator 's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

The Diner-vore's Dilemma: why on-campus eating consistently falls short

by Makayla Franks '19
Opinion Contributor

When people make the decision to spend their summer on campus for reasearch or to play for local summer league teams, they often do not consider that many facilities the college offers, namely, the dining halls, are closed. I have now spent two consecutive summers here on Hamilton's campus and as is said: absence makes the heart grow fonder. In the summer, the absence of Commons, McEwen, and the Howard Diner forces one to rely on their own cooking skills. Not that mine are too shabby, but it gets repetitive and tiring to not only physically make my food every time I am hungry, but also shell out the money to ensure that I am able to eat. So I will continue to be very grateful to the dining halls on campus and the ease with which they provide food to the community.

As much as I might appreciate it however, I still have some reservations. After three years on the Hill, I, along with many others, have begun to notice a pattern. If you lack a car, or if your personal schedule does not align with the schedule of the Jitney, you cannot really get off campus. Sure, you could walk, but who honestly has the time or the will to do that? Your options are now the dining halls or to order food, and I think it goes without saying that no one orders food with a conscious decision towards healthy options, especially when Papa Johns and China Sea make more than a pretty penny from hungry Hamilton students.

The meal situation on campus reveals a difference in quality that reflects more or less an inverse of demand. Breakfast, despite the thirty minute lines if you want any kind of egg that is not powdered, is not so bad. Both McEwen and Commons offer dependable options that are generally good. You have the choice of yogurt (when it is not sour cream), fruit, cereal, or hot options, including pre-made sandwiches.

But maybe this quality is more attainable in the mornings because getting breakfast seems to be an elective decision in our society and on Hamilton's campus. Depending on what time a person's day actually begins — whether it is morning practice, a 9 A.M., or needing to get up to finish homework that should have been done last night — they might or might not even want to eat. Reduced demand in the morning might just mean a higher quality dining experience.

Lunch can be suspect at times. It is a hit or miss at McEwen, which is limited in terms of diversity but prides itself on better content. For different people, it has different results. But the fact that McEwen is not open on the weekends or past lunch on Friday makes dark-siders a little more protective of their smoothie and juice bar and more reliable ice cream options.

The hours between the end of lunch and the beginning of dinner are where I find it most strange to eat. There is no hot food available, so options are already severely limited. Perhaps to the person who does not mind creating something small and on-the-go, a coffee cup repurposed full of vegetables and salad dressing or grabbing a piece of pizza to be eaten somewhere on Martin's Way between point A and point B will do the trick. However, those looking for a bit more substantial lunch seem to be out-of-luck. And if you are a vegetarian, you are out of luck unless you like salads, but isn't that a bit of a stereotype (and also severely limiting?) With that being said, there are nice spots like the Pub and speacial options like Diner Mac on Wednesdays that boost the on-campus lunch profile.

Dinner, on the other hand, is a mess. Varsity sports practice from 4 P.M. to 6 P.M., and club sports (in my experience) practice from 4:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.. Add in potential club meetings — which, depending on the club, can meet from 4 P.M. to 9 P.M. — rehearsals, TA sessions, and a general need to get homework done, and there are very limited windows when each individual is available to get dinner.

Commons and McEwen close at 8 P.M.. If you are coming off of a two-hour practice followed by a TA session or club, your only option is whatever you can make yourself — which, whether for lack of environment or skill, limits most people on this campus to microwaveable mac and cheese or ramen — or go to the Diner. It goes without saying that the Diner is not the most healthy of options.

Some students here, me among them, joke that there is an evil conspiracy to shame the student body into wanting to eat healthy, but not offering them the options to do so (which is fair.) With as much propaganda that we are exposed to, whether through the school's campaigns to raise health awareness or pride themselves on natural, local ingredients, all the way through ads online and news articles that talk about such things, the idea of "eating healthy" is inescapable.

And yet, everyone knows Diner Mac Wednesday, Curly Fry-Day, and the fact that you can get ice cream and milkshakes from there if you are willing to spend actual money. It is consistent, it is reliable, and it is a genuinely enjoyable time, and you know what you are going to get when you get through. You do not get short changed on beef tips and have to get back in line because portion sizes are policed. The point remains, though, that while this food is comforting and almost always accessible, it runs counter to the College's supposed commitment to promoting healthy eating. So is the reality that we often cannot actually eat healthy while on this campus? What happens now?

If I am being honest, probably nothing. There are definitely channels that we as students could go through to try and get better quality, accessible, and health-conscious food, but the fact of the matter is that getting achieving this goal is likely to result in a lot of effort and minimal results.

What it boils down to is a matter of contracts and how much Hamilton is willing to pay Bon Appetit for an increased quality of food. Then again, if our tuition keeps increasing year after year, I know I would not mind seeing some better options arrive on my plate. For the time being, we will just have to keep eating.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Sr. Breakaway: We love any and all opportunities to dress inappropriately well and dance on picnic tables.	**Plague of Mosquito Hawks: We get it, these are the "good" bugs, they eat mosquitos, blah blah blah, but frankly we are sick of finding 8 of them hanging out in the shower. They are totally further proof of global warming and also giving us night terrors of them flying into the stall while we're taking a shit.**	**The weather is still nice: The negative consequences (See Thumbs Down) brings this from a thumbs-up to a solid meh.**
F.i.l.m. presents *Strong Island*: We're as excited for the return of our favorite indecipherable acronym as we are to see Yance Ford's award-winning documentary and hear from him about it.		**SiteManager3 is updating: this matters to literally no one else but me, but I'll be damned if I don't use my platform to make my audience suffer with me.**

by Tara Cicic '18 and Rachel Alatalo '18

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Letter to the Editor

Dear *Spectator* Editorial Board,

As Peter Briccetti '19 eloquently outlined in his opinion piece last week, the administration of Hamilton College seems intent on reducing the social options available to students on the Hill. I believe there are further implications of these actions that merit discussion.

First, by restricting student-led social spaces, the College is effectively "pricing out" those students who cannot afford to go downtown and buy drinks at the village bars. The Clintonite perception of our students as the affluent children of doctors and lawyers is due, in part, to the fact that you need disposable income to have a night out at the Rok or VT. Conversely, on-campus parties usually do not serve alcohol and are open to all of the campus community.

Second, student-led social gatherings are justified creative and recreational outlets. Hamilton is a particularly isolated college and mental health issues are common on our campus. The administration should stop seeing parties as bacchanalian excesses and recognize that they are a valuable tool to unwind from a stressful week, reinforce friendships, and enjoy the originality, time, and effort that student leaders expend to ensure these are memorable, fun,and safe environments.

Third, by decreasing the amount of public spaces available for student use, Hamilton is encouraging private, exclusive and potentially dangerous situations. Instead of stifling parties, the administration should work towards ensuring the safety of attendees and a welcoming environment where anyone can partake in fun.

Partying is as much a part of the college experience as academics and the friendships you make during your four years. These deleterious actions on behalf of the administration will not only fail to achieve their goal (which is presumably to reduce alcohol consumption), but will also engender an increasingly frayed and mistrustful relationship between the student body and the administration. In such circumstances, it can be rather hard to "Know Thyself" if your College is dictating your every move.

Sincerely,
Cesar Renero '17

Disclaimer: The views expressed in the Opinion pages are those of the writers. They are not necessarily representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Existing Title IX protections wholly necessary in current college culture

by Eleni Neyland '18
Opinion Contributor

On Sept. 7, Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced a review of Obama era expansions to Title IX protections regarding sexual misconduct on college campuses. She claimed the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) "weaponized" Title IX by forcing college administrations to create quasi-judicial sexual misconduct procedures that violate the due process of accused students. Survivors, advocacy groups, and former Obama staffers — along with President Obama and Vice President Biden — took to social media and oped columns to express their anxieties over how DeVos' announcement threatens hard fought gains toward ending the scourge of campus sexual assault. Currently, one in five women is sexually assaulted in college; the numbers are even higher for LGBTQ and gender nonconforming students.

In 2011, the Obama Administration sought to reform sexual misconduct procedures in higher education, beginning with a "Dear Colleague" letter from the OCR to educational institutions receiving federal aid. The letter provided guidance for how schools could meet their Title IX requirements in the context of sexual misconduct in order to ensure that "No person...on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Administration continued its work through White House reports, Joe Biden's 'It's On Us' campaign, and additional "Dear Colleague" letters.

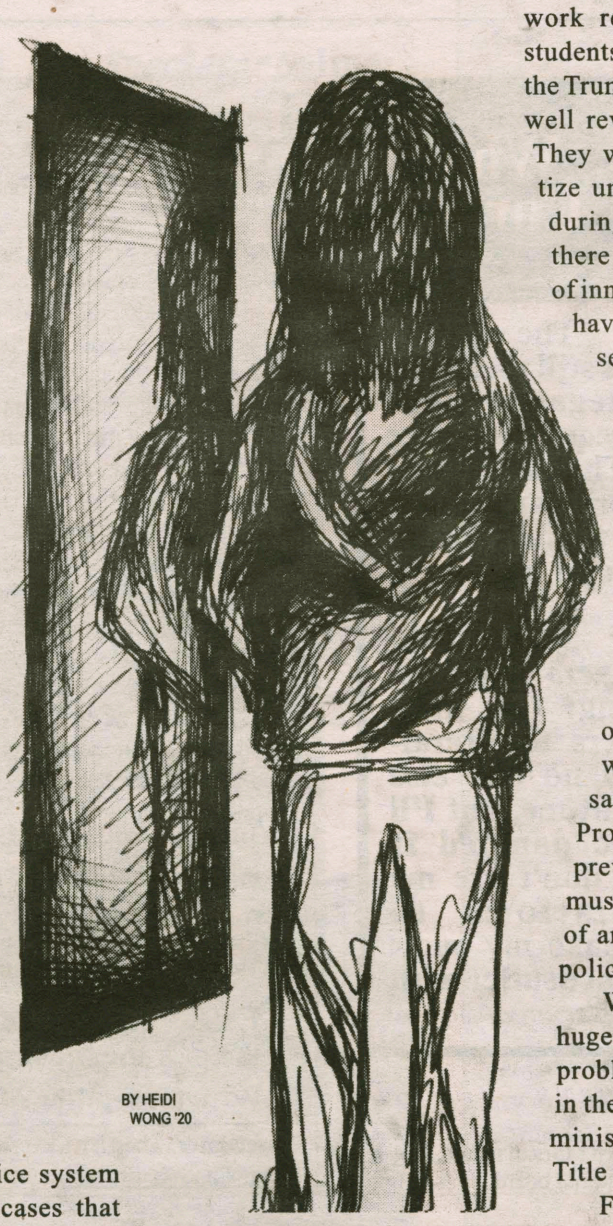
Before these reforms, no uniform system for handling sexual misconduct existed; many universities mishandled cases and further traumatized survivors. Assaults went unreported, allegations went uninvestigated, and rapists walked free.

The Obama-era reforms did not solve these problems, but did begin the process of addressing this troublesome reality. Universities are now required to investigate all claims of sexual misconduct, even if such claims originate from a third party. The OCR also strongly suggests schools dedicate a Title IX coordinator whose sole responsibility is overseeing sexual misconduct procedures. Perhaps most controversially, the OCR instructed colleges to adopt a "preponderance of evidence" standard in disciplinary hearings, whereby guilt in cases of sexual misconduct is determined if over half of the available evidence is incriminating.

These measures are not flawless, but they are progress. If a woman recounts a sexual assault to any mandated reporter — a professor, coach, residential advisor, or Title IX coordinator, for example — that claim must be investigated. A gender nonconforming student can report an assault and know a dedicated professional will handle the case. In a disciplinary hearing, administration members can determine guilt and perhaps prevent future assaults in cases where, by the nature of the crime, evidence is convincing but not complete. The OCR can open an investigation into any college or university that it suspects might consistently violate its community members' Title IX rights. In sum, schools can no longer sweep sexual assault under the proverbial rug, nor can they get away with dramatically underreporting sexual misconduct statistics.

As is always true with first acts of progress, these reforms have sometimes come at a cost. Universities now need to hire Title IX coordinators and be wary of OCR investigations, but until school administrators can proliferate campus cultures that do not include one in five women being sexually assaulted during her four years at their school, it is a burden they will have to bear. Critics argue that these reforms created a parallel justice system for sexual assault cases that lacks the constitutional protections afforded in a criminal court. The campus justice system indeed employs a lower burden of proof, but it also lacks the ability to subpoena evidence or sentence assailants to prison. Furthermore, this "parallel justice system" exists already to deal with such on-campus violations as underage drinking, drug possession, and destruction of property. When conservative writers attempt to redefine progress as the hijacking of due process and the oppression of innocent and unassuming male students, they forget how regularly the criminal justice system fails sexual assault survivors. In guaranteeing equal access to education for all students, universities should seek to overcome those failures so that rapists are not free to assault other students.

This is not to say the current system is perfect. As it has since the Constitution's adoption, the federal government must seek to balance competing rights. Sexual assault survivors have a right to education that is infringed upon when they are forced to encounter their assailant in class. At the same time, until proven guilty, the accused student has a right to attend class. Should, then, Title IX coordinators enforce no contact orders, whereby the accused may have to alter their class schedule or extracurricular activities to avoid their accuser, until campus judicial proceedings conclude?


BY HEIDI WONG '20

Of course, there also stands the dilemma that a good deal of sex had on college campuses, including at Hamilton, is illegal on account of alcohol consumption and New York's affirmative consent laws (requiring clear consent at every stage of sexual contact.) Should such interactions be considered problematic if consent was not properly given, but neither party feels aggrieved?

These are only a few of the many challenging questions raised by sexual misconduct within a Title IX framework. And yet, the use of Title IX to enforce stricter standards for handling sexual misconduct cases has undoubtedly elevated the voices and protected the rights of survivors. It is clear that any discussion of these questions requires honesty, empathy, and thoughtfulness — all qualities the Trump Administration decidedly lacks. In this light, the liberal response to DeVos' announcement has been hardly apocalyptic, and while much work remains to ensure all students' rights are protected, the Trump Administration may well reverse recent progress. They will also likely prioritize unrepresentative voices during this debate. While there are surely a few cases of innocent men whose lives have been upset by unjust sexual misconduct proceedings, only 2-10 percent of sexual assault accusations are false according to a 2014 White House report. Furthermore, (and this is the statistic DeVos' supposedly good intentions cannot quite overcome), one in five women are sexually assaulted during college. Protecting survivors and preventing future assaults must remain the priority of any federal government policy.

While sexual assault is a huge and quite complicated problem, what can be done in the face of the Trump Administration's forthcoming Title IX rollbacks?

First, become educated on the issue. Read op-eds and summaries, check out Hamilton's sexual misconduct policy (available on the Hamilton website), or attend a peer advocate training hosted by Hamilton Sexual Assault and Violence Education and Support (SAVES.)

Second, join the on-campus conversation. Many sexual assaults occur at Hamilton; in 2016, one in twelve Hamilton students reported to a national campus climate survey that they had been sexually assaulted. That is over 150 students.

So join discussions led by campus groups who focus on this issue. The Womxn's Center and the Sexual Misconduct and Assault Reform Task-force (SMART) held a community discussion last week in response to the announcement, which lasted over an hour and allowed students to express their anger and confusion over current policies.

According to SMART Programming Co-Chair Hannah Fink '18, this spring the group will host a series of "discussion-based workshops to encourage peer to peer conversations in order to engage the campus in awareness and prevention of sexual assault." Despite recent setbacks, Fink remains focused. "When we can create a culture at Hamilton that does not shy away from open and honest exchange, I think we can see a real difference on this campus," Fink says. "It begins with SMART working with student leaders and organizations who want to step up."

Third, join the national conversation. While she did not give a timetable, DeVos' statement included a promise to hold a notice-and-comment period, whereby the public can register opinions on the policy in question. Submit a comment supporting Title IX, call your member of Congress, take to social media, and, of course, vote.

This issue is not simple or easy, and it is not going anywhere. As students, community members, and as human beings, we are responsible for ensuring our peers receive an education free from the trauma of sexual assault. And when we inevitably fail, it is our job to make sure the justice system in place protects survivors and serves our community well.

Bachelor & Bachelorette

Steve Kettig '19

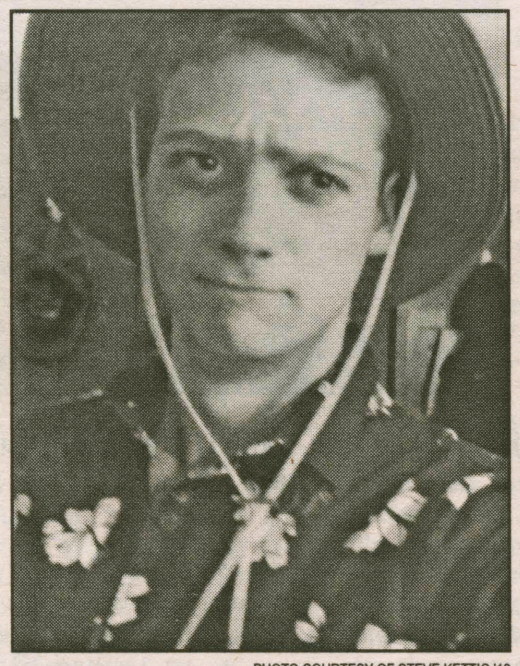


PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE KETTIG '19

Hometown: *Westchester, NY, like half the population.*
Home on Campus: *Saunders.*
Major: *Environmental Studies.*
Turn on? *Someone who can match me in my chicken wing eating ability.*
Turn off? *Cat people, but only the ones who also don't recognize that dogs are better pets.*

If you were a dorm, which would you be and why? *Dunham because I have a lot of great memories (or a lack thereof) from freshman year.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Dilly Fran and T-Swift because I'm weird but for some reason people like me.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"Just do it" because I constantly make myself do things I don't want to... such as being the eligible bachelor.*
What TV genre best describes you? *Anything on Adult Swim.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *Want to go play Mario Kart in my room?*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Rangers hockey, alcohol, and my dog Casey.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *My room.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *Rock climbing club because I think climbing is fun but I'm also very afraid of heights.*
What's your patronus and why? *An otter would be dope, but I'd probably have something lame like a deer.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Drinking games.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Getting sick from drinking games.*
What would your perfect date be? *BBQ and a B movie.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *The third string soccer goalie that lives here.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Campo breaking up parties that aren't in any way out of hand.*
Favorite campus study spot? *My room or wherever there are the most people around me that I can distract.*
What's the last lie you told? *That I remember anything past 11 p.m. last Friday night.*
What was your first thought this morning? *I gotta get to the commons omelette bar by 8:20 to beat the rush.*

Sam Fogel '19

PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM FOGEL '19

Hometown: *Concord, NH.*
Home on Campus: *The shed on Minor Field.*
Major: *Thinking things.*
Turn on? *Electricity.*
Turn off? *Flip flops.*
If you were a dorm, which would you be and why? *The Co-Op because I'm fun and lovable but adults think I'm irresponsible and hate everything I do.*

If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Jacob Leebron and Mozart. I don't need to explain myself.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"We are farmers, bum ba dum dum bum bum bum."*
What TV genre best describes you? *Anything Adult Swim.*
What's your type? *Danny DeVito.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Circulatory system // bone marrow // IV drip of coffee.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *FREE THE ROCK SWING.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Carhartts.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Hard-boiled eggs.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Lia DeFranco.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Marianne Janack.*
What would your perfect date be? *A man in a flannel reading (and explaining)* Infinite Jest *to me while we sip craft beer that he picked out special for us.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *An unclaimed rusty nail.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Majoring in econ.*
Which American historical figure are you attracted to and why? *President Howard Taft because he had a really big bathtub.*
If you were a food, which would you be and why? *A turmeric seed.*
Lights on or lights off? *Off, because I don't hate the environment.*
Favorite campus study spot? *7:30 a.m. in a McEwen booth*
What's the last lie you told? *"Sorry, I can't. I have too much work."*
What's the meaning of life? *Social climbing.*
Which member of Disney royalty are you? *the raccoon from* Pocahontas.

How to join the ADK 46ers

by William Andriola '21
Features Contributor

Exploring the high peaks of the Adirondacks requires days of hiking, camping, scrambling up rocks, and navigating ill-defined trails. To climb every one of the high peaks, defined as the 46 peaks in the Adirondack Mountain range, which exceeds 4,000 feet in height, is considered one of the premier challenges for hikers in the area. But this did not stop Sadye Bobbette '21 from climbing to the top of all 46 peaks.

Those who have completed the feat, known as 46ers, become eligible for club membership and special memorabilia from the "ADK 46ers." The club was founded around 1918 by a pair of brothers and a friend with the goal of recognizing those individuals who successfully achieved such a feat and of preserving the trail for future generations.

The "46ers Club" has since seen almost 10,000 people complete the challenge.

Bobbette is a member of this distinguished group. A native of Syracuse, New York, Bobbette has been climbing for years, throughout her whole childhood. The High Peaks, though a special challenge, represent a step up into a new and exciting level of terrain.

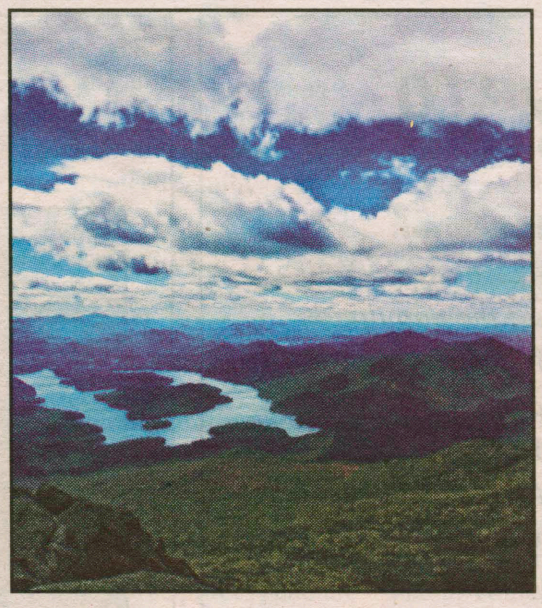
After living in the region for many years, she had long heard of and been in awe of those who had been on the "46ers Trip." She never imagined though, that she would one day embark on the same challenge.

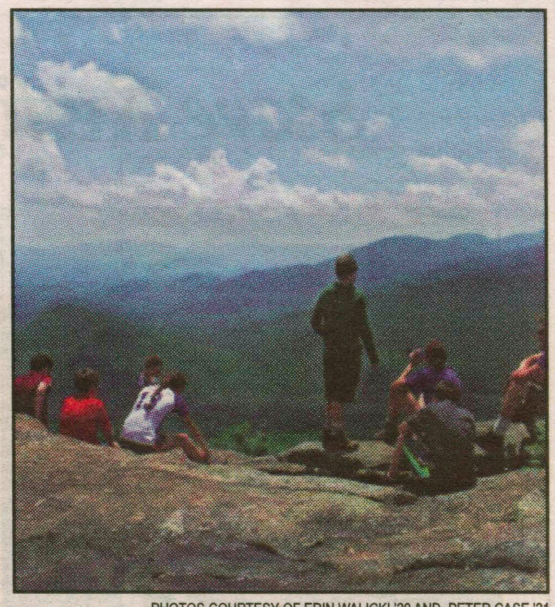
One summer, after a particularly rewarding hike up three of the High Peaks, she finally decided to commit.

"I got this gut feeling where I just knew I wanted more than anything to do the 46ers trip," she said. "It was just this weird instinct, but I got so excited."

The trip would require preparation, so she began running every morning before school as well as fundraising to pay for the trip. The next summer, she was ready to set out.

The hike consisted of a group of eight people; six ranging from ages 15 to 16 and two leaders. Their goal: to hike all 46 peaks, in just five weeks.





PHOTOS COURTESY OF ERIN WALICKI '20 AND PETER CASE '21

Scenic views drew Erin Walicki '20 to Whiteface Mountain (left) and Peter Case '21 to Gray Peak (right).

There were no showers and no phones, and the hiking was incredibly intense. In one day, her group climbed 7 peaks. Despite this, "those five weeks were literally the most incredible five weeks of my entire life," said Bobbette. The most rewarding part, she said, is the moment right at the end of the tree line: "the summit seems so close, so I find myself practically running to the top, scrambling up the steep rocks."

It's not all fun; Bobbette describes many instances of close calls with slippery rocks in streams. But for her, the sense of pride that comes from hard work more than makes up for it. "I remember each and every peak individually as a totally different experience. Every day was so different."

In the end, Bobbette says, the peaks are what you make of them; each is unique and special in its own way. The most important piece of advice she can give though, is to not rush it, to enjoy the hike itself, "not just the views at the top."

Ultimately, the "beautiful streams and cool critters, leantos and cooking and feeling so filthy yet pure at the same time, taking off your wet hiking boots at the end of the day; all of the little things make [hiking] a hugely memorable experience."

Are subscription boxes really worth it?

by Claire Chang '20
Staff Writer

In an era of the paradox of choice, it may come as no surprise that subscription box services are the latest commercial trend. The periodically shipped packages have sparked the interests of every consumer niche, ranging from food fiends, to comic addicts, to pet lovers. But as with every crazed fad, it remains to be seen if they are truly worth their hype.

One of the frontier subscription box businesses is BirchBox, a New York-based company that specializes in personal care items and beauty boxes. Priced at $10 a month or $110 a year, the monthly Birchbox allows customers to sample four to five brand items travel sized, in the hopes that shoppers will be encouraged to later purchase the products in their full size.

Since its launch in 2010, BirchBox has seen an astronomical rise in popularity, and now supplies boxes to over four million customers. Many companies have followed in the footsteps of BirchBox, appealing to consumers' morale, branding their boxes as 'hand-picked' and 'customized' just for them.

The subscription box is the perfect service for customers who find themselves with too much to choose from. It is also a good opportunity for both customers eager to try out new brands, and for startup companies wishing to get their products out on the market. Moreover, customers need not contemplate continued purchasing strategies: with one click, the boxes begin.

From a psychological aspect, subscription boxes are the ultimate boost of self esteem.

"The chemical reaction our bodies have when we're excited and waiting for that box each month — not knowing what it is, but knowing it's coming — creates an adrenaline rush," Amanda Doman, site manager at the Illinois Institute for Addiction Recovery, said. "When something's being handpicked for someone...it makes them feel unique and keeps them continuing to purchase."

But alas, the subscription box is not without its faults, the main one being that satisfaction is subject to what you get. Very few subscription box services allow you to return their items, and cancellations of services often come with predetermined fees.

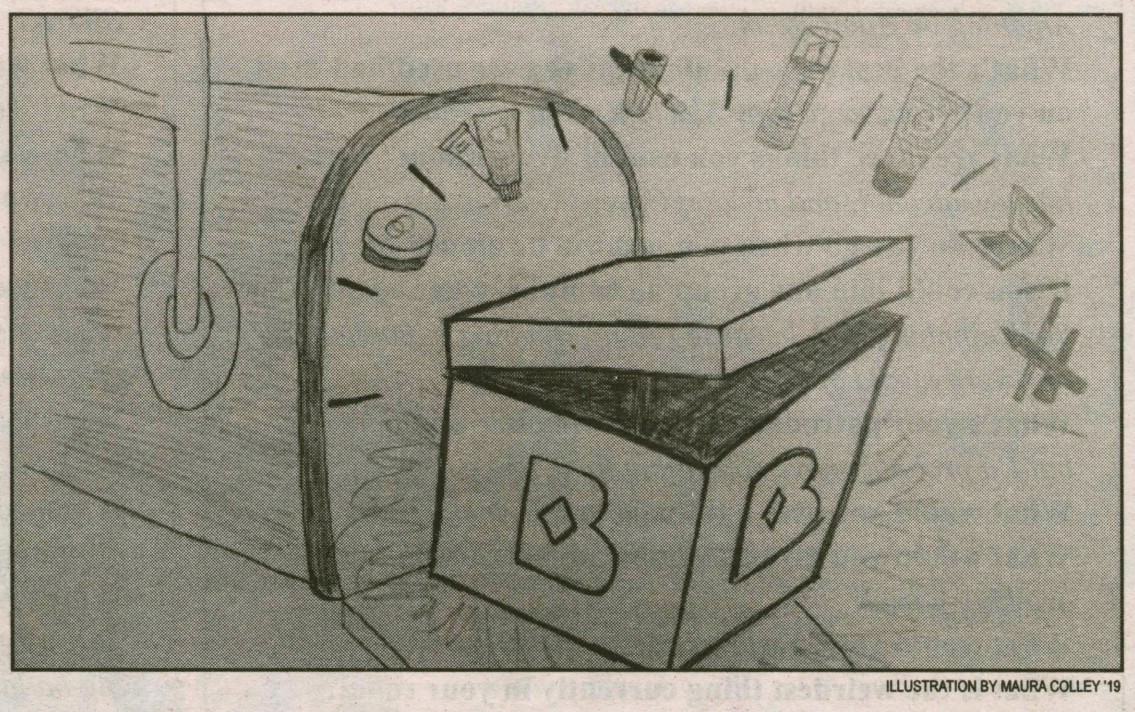


ILLUSTRATION BY MAURA COLLEY '19

Vendor lock-in is the phenomenon in which those unsatisfied customers must put up with the tricking boxes until their year of payment ends. For many, the inconvenience associated with having to physically cancel a subscription can be enough to keep them eternally subscribed.

Some have likened these services to gym memberships: the hassle of terminating the commitment is sometimes enough to keep you paying. Nevertheless, alternative strategies exist, such as exchanging one item for another.

From an environmental perspective, subscription boxes are often criticized for being the most resource consumptive products on the market. Not only does shipping and airfare play into carbon footprint guilt, but overly cutesy decorations and meticulously-crafted packages may not override a box's inevitable disposal.

Despite their flaws, there is no denying subscription boxes are soaring among consumer markets. Like all things, this new trend has its drawbacks. So, whether you are a subscription box specialistor a virgin subscriber, it is important to weigh the pros and cons as they matter to you.

This week in Hamilton headlines...

by Grace Myers '19
Production Editor

In the interest of fostering a sense of pride for Hamilton College's past, and to connect this past with Hamilton's present and future, The Spectator *has decided to re-publish a collection of archived articles.*

"This Week in Hamilton Headlines" aims to furnish the Hamilton public with cultural context, such as the transition from an all-male college to the colloquially dubbed "Hamland College" (featured in a 1977 issue), or the interfraternal football league topped by the undefeated Chi Psi and DKE in 1965.

The Spectator *will feature op-eds, news, cartoons, and features from this week, 10, 20, 30, 40, or 50 years ago in hopes of increasing engagement to Hamilton's rich and storied history.*

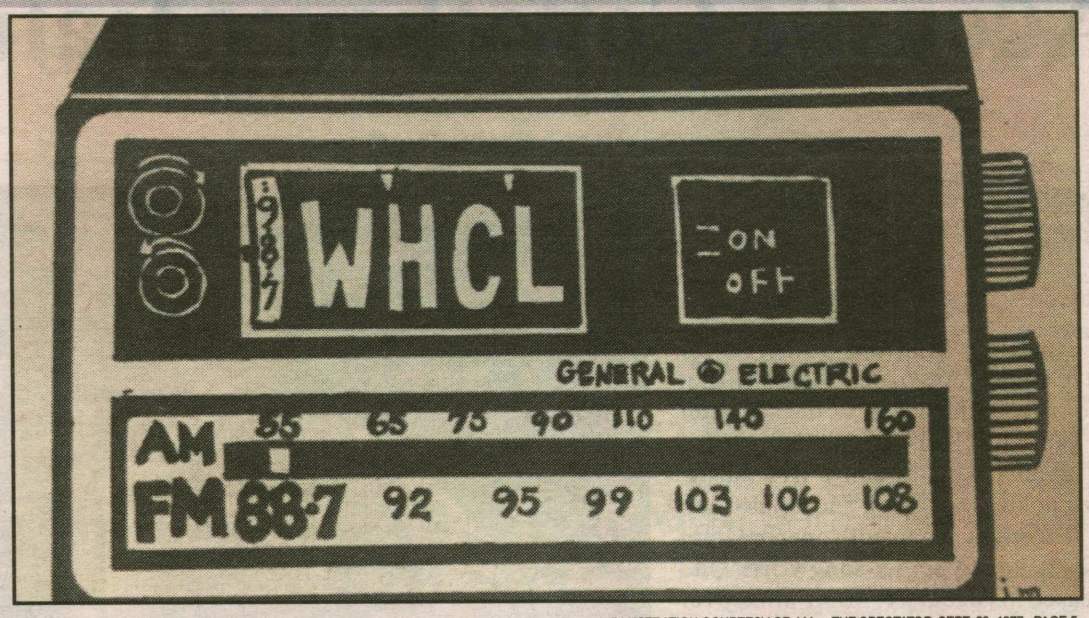


ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF J.M., *THE SPECTATOR*, SEPT. 23, 1977, PAGE 5

1977 - WHCL: Back on the Air
by Philip Ruppel '80

Last Wednesday, WHCL, the radio station of Hamilton and Kirkland Colleges, resumed services for the 1977-78 year.

After a long vacation, the college community can now look forward to a totally commercial-free radio station.

Except for a few changes, WHCL is the same. There's still Trivia on Monday night, Jazz on weekday afternoons, an expanded classical show, and full coverage of basketball and hockey games. The station will also continue to broadcast till 2 a.m., 7 days a week.

John Staugaitis General Manager of WHCL, noted a few changes and improvements from last year. In the interest of continuity, there will be a one 3-hour show instead of the previous 2-hour shows during "prime time" (9 p.m. to midnight). Jim Donaldson, Henry Sneath, Sandy Gottlieb, and Mike Quinn will each have a show at that time.

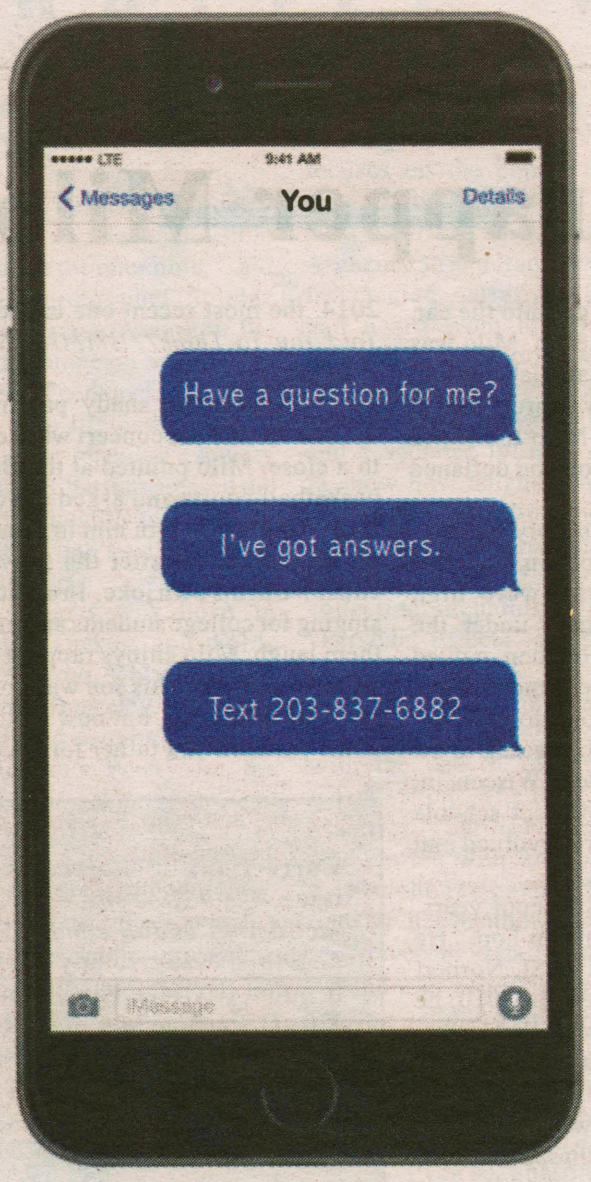
A few additions to the program schedule will be a folk show on Saturday afternoons will Bill Bradbury, a public affairs show on Monday evening featuring campus news and interviews with local personnel, an Album of the Day show at noon, and a special taped concert feature on Monday evenings. The only blues show in the upper New York State area, however, had to be cancelled due to the absence of an interested D.J..

The news broadcasts, which last year were run sporadically, have not as yet been organized. The U.P.I. teletype service, though, has been discontinued. Commented Staugaitis, "We've had a decrease of responsibility, so monitoring the teletype just became a farce." Instead, when the news staff gets organized, they will use the *Utica Daily Press*, *The New York Times*, and *Zodiac News Service* (a daily service providing "out-of-the-mainstream" stories).

Staugaitis noted that although there may be some budget cuts, he hopes to improve the old and out-dated machinery in the station in the basement of Minor Theater. He mentioned specifically the purchase of a noise-reduction unit, a machine which might improve the radio signal, as well as an overall increase of records in WHCL's library.

The management of a college radio station which broadcasts an average of 18 hours a day, 7 days a week, depends heavily on a very responsible and capable staff. Yet the people of WHCL are optimistic. As Sandy Gottlieb, Music Director, commented, "It's going exceptionally well due to great interest on the part of the new staff members. I'm looking forward to a fruitful year."

Sept., 1977



Ask Alex

How many people, minimun, do you need to get a big table in Commons without looking like a jerk?

This a tricky one because these tables are usually monopolized by sports teams. One person alone at a large circle table is difficult, but three backpacks hints that more are to come. Of course, if it is just the three of you, it is a great opportunity to make some new friends.

What are Bundy parties really like?

On the outside, it is pulsing music and steamy windows, but on the inside it is really what you make of it. Sometimes all you remember is inflatables flying around the room and beer sloshing on the floors, and other times you might not remember anything at all.

Is Opus coffee really worth it or is there any way to spice up Commons and McEwen coffee?

Opus coffee is actually the bomb, and it is no more expensive than the Starbucks inside Barnes & Noble that is a car-ride away. If your Hillcard is low on funds, trying some flavored coffees and adding a scoop of icecream can tide you over.

Do I actually need a "Proper I.D.?"

These types of parties like to use wristbands or stamps to identify of-age students. They're generally are open to the whole campus. Alcohol will be present, but if/how you grab a drink is up to you.

Can food get delivered to academic buildings?

Yes! Student favorites such as New China Sea, Taj Mahal, and Papa John's are familiar with the layout of campus. Chances are if you say KJ Circle, for example, they will know what you are talking about.

Is a mini fridge really worth it?

Yes, because you can have peace of mind that your left over Diner and Chinese food will still be there when you get back.

What is the Cider Mill?

Only the best place ever! Hit up their donuts, maple butter, cookies, and hot cider for a real taste of fall.

Acoustic Coffeehouse features Tyrone Wells

by Josie Blatt '21
A&E Contributor

Hamilton students gathered for the Campus Activities Board's first Acoustic Coffeehouse of the semester on Thursday, Sept. 14. Students filled the Events Barn to enjoy live music, free cookies, hot cider, and Opus Chai.

The night began with opener Grant Ellis, a young singer-songwriter who released his debut EP, *Milky Milk*, over the summer. Ellis performed six songs while accompanying himself on the guitar and one song playing the piano.

His voice was soft and smooth, and his style similar to that of Jason Mraz. While his songs were pleasant, Ellis's lack of experience, especially compared to Wells, was evident. During his song "Rollin,'" Ellis stopped after a few lines, admitting that he started the song in the wrong octave. Despite this mistake, the audience still enjoyed Ellis's set. He ended with a beautiful rendition of The Beatles' "Yesterday."

The headliner for the night was Tyrone Wells, a singer-songwriter from Spokane, Washington. In the late 1990s, Wells was the lead singer for Skypark, a Christian rock band. In 2000 he went solo, performing his own music at various acoustic venues in Orange County, California.

Although Wells is not a mainstream name, he has had quite an impressive career. Two of his albums, *Metal and Wood* (2010) and *Where We Meet* (2012), reached number one on the iTunes Singer-Songwriter Chart. Additionally, Wells' music has had over 50 placements in television and film. His song "Sink or Swim" was featured in promos for the season six premiere of *Grey's Anatomy*. Another one of his songs, "Time of Our Lives," was used on an episode of *The Vampire Diaries*. Both "Sink or Swim," and "Time of Our Lives," the latter as an encore song, were hits among the audience at the coffeehouse.

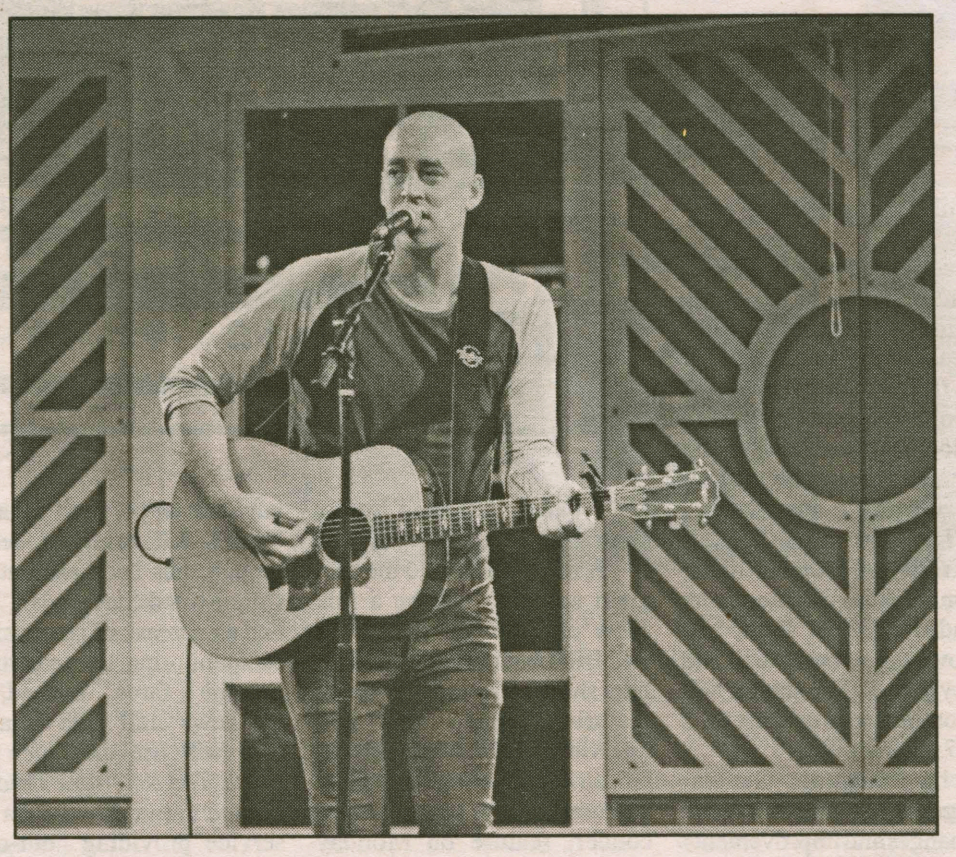


PHOTO BY JADE THOMAS '20

Wells sings with emotion during his performance at the CAB Coffeehouse on Sept. 14 in the Events Barn.

Wells performed eleven numbers. He impressed the audience with his vocal technique, moving songs, and engaging personality. Moreover, his passion and connection to the words he was singing shone through as he sang.

One of the highlights of Wells' set was "More."

Wells prefaced the song by dedicating it to people going through a tough time. He said, "In a crowd this size there are always people who are going through a dark time whether it's with family, or personal reasons, or anything." "More" was inspiring and the silence of the audience throughout the song showed its power. A lighter but equally enjoyable moment in his set was when Wells showcased his impressive yodeling abilities in "Two Buffalo." After the song, Wells comedically told the audience, "I can feel your jealousy." Another highlight of Wells' set was his autobiographical number, "Carolina Blues." The song was inspired by his grandfather, who taught him that love is more important than money.

Wells connected with the audience not only through his music, but with the stories that he told in between songs. In one particularly interesting anecdote, Wells described a time when he was playing at the Orange County Swap Meet many years ago when he was a new artist. He was playing one of his songs, "Sea Breeze," and a young woman came up to him asking why he was playing her friend Sam's song. Wells responded that it was his song and the girl protested, claiming her friend Sam wrote that song for his girlfriend.

After much back and forth, the woman came to realize that her friend had been stealing Wells' songs, claiming them as his own and singing them to his girlfriend. Wells told other stories including one about a proposal he sang for, and one about his father teaching him to yodel. The audience was laughing and hooked throughout all of these stories.

Overall, the night was a success thanks to CAB, Grant Ellis, Tyrone Wells, and the audience.

For those interested in seeing Wells perform outside of Hamilton, he can be seen on tour in New York City in the spring.

WHCL concert features rapper Milo

by Grace Passannante '20
A&E Contributor

Under the Babbitt Pavilion on a warm and summery September Saturday, an intimate crowd enjoyed a free performance by alternative hip hop musician Milo, thanks to WHCL. Opener Chelsea Reject warmed up the crowd with high-energy rap and dance moves to be followed by the more low-key rapper Milo. Milo, from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, wore thick-framed square 1970s-style glasses that covered his distinguishable unibrow. He opened his performance by asking for a belt from the audience to hoist up his loose wide-legged purple pants. Once Jacob Leebron '18, the General Manager of WHCL, took off his belt and handed it to the rapper, Milo was ready to perform.

Milo began rapping by facing the parking lot, rather than making eye contact with the audience. After he three songs, he decided to face the crowd. He chuckled to himself as he admitted that he enjoyed analyzing how the intimate crowd had arranged the way they were standing. The performance became more of a conversation between the audience and Milo as he continued to check in with the crowd.

One of his first questions was "do you guys like sandwiches?" to which the crowd answered, "Yeah!" This question appeared simple and straightforward at first. Maybe he was going to rap about sandwiches? As soon as the audience confirmed that they too enjoyed sandwiches, Milo laughed. He claimed that he asked that question only because the mainly white audience could relate to that. He then told a story of when he was eleven years old and walking home with a sandwich that he bought from the local deli in his town in Maine. While he was walking, a cop car pulled him over and asked what he was doing in the area.

Young Milo claimed that he lived in the town. The cop did not believe him and continued to press him for questions, asking how old he was, what school he went to, and for a form of identification. Young Milo became very frazzled and started saying "I don't know." Not satisfied with his answers, the cop forced Milo to get into the car. From the ripe age of eleven, Milo was taught that the United States labeled him and categorized him as a threat due to the color of his skin. Milo translates this feeling of oppression and defiance in his song "IDK."

Milo, known as Rory Ferreira off of the stage, was born in Chicago, Illinois to parents who were high school dropouts and both under the age of twenty-one. He then moved to Saco, Maine and spent most of his childhood there. He got into music at the age of twelve. Before going to St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wisconsin, he attended thirteen different schools because his parents were divorced and always moving around.

During his high school years, Milo worked a lot with hip-hop. He eventually dropped out of St. Norbert to pursue a music career. In 2010, he released his first mixtape, called *Greatest Hits Vol. 1*. He has released four other mixtapes since then, the most recent one in 2017 known as *Over the Carnage Rose a Voice Prophetic*. He has also released five albums since 2014, the most recent one called *Who Told You To Think??!!?!?!?!*,released in 2017.

Under the shady pavilion as the sun set and the concert was coming to a close, Milo pointed at the Babbitt basketball courts and asked the crowd if they wanted to join him in a game of pickup basketball after the show. He chuckled at his own joke. In addition to singing for college students and making them laugh, Milo enjoys rapping to his young son. Before his son was born, he rapped for himself, but now Milo raps in the position of a father for his child.

Correction: In last week's issue, *C@B Reveals Jesse McCartney as fall concert headliner* was wrongly attributed to Grace Passanante '20. The article was actually written by Josie Blatt '21. *The Spectator* regrets the error.

Screening of *An Outrage* in Kennedy Auditorium

by Edgar Otero '20
A&E Contributor

Hamilton students received a wake-up call on Wednesday night, Sept.13 in the Kennedy Auditorium with the film screening of *An Outrage*, a documentary film about lynching in the American South. Following the screening was a Q&A with the filmmakers, Hannah Ayers and Lance Warren, moderated by Africana Studies Professor Nigel Westmaas. The short documentary was filmed on-location at lynching sites in six states, and its strength lies in the memories and perspectives of descendants, community activists and scholars that propelled the film. Its purpose is to educate and prompt viewers to take action in remembrance of our nation's long-hidden past.

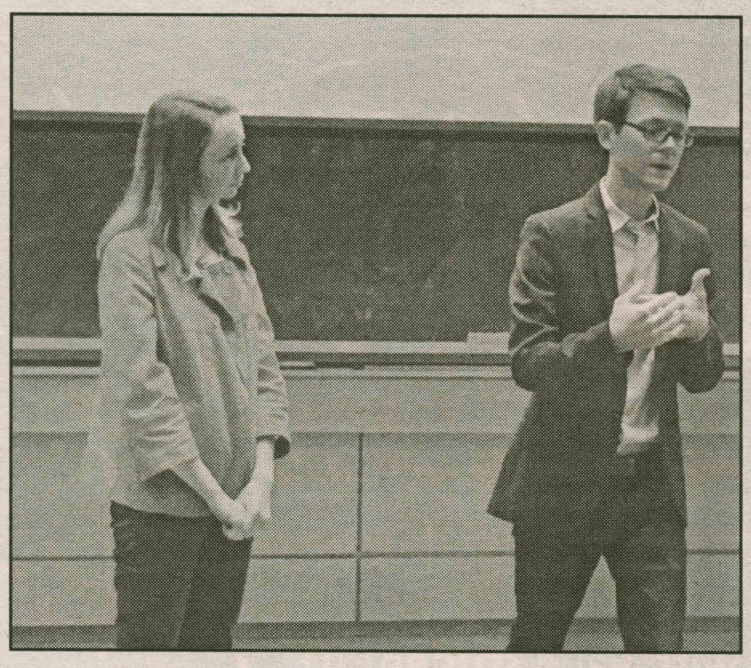


PHOTO BY EDGAR OTERO '20

Filmmakers Hannah Ayers and Lance Warren.

The film exposes dark truths about the societal injustices and hushed horrors that color our country's history; it sheds a light on the deeply-rooted racist sentiment that was allowed to run rampant and forge a path of destruction through the American south until the middle of the twentieth century.

The film introduces audiences to people who have been personally affected by these 'outrages' and live to share the often silenced stories of their affected families. Scholars and historians who have extensive knowledge of the history of this atrocious phenomenon provided viewers with historical, social, and political context to deepen their understanding of the American landscape that allowed lynching to occur as frequently and acceptably as it did.

The goal of the film is not just to educate, but to also serve as a platform for action that allows people to commemorate the battle fought by African Americans in our nation's past that is deliberately kept a secret.

The filmmakers, Ayers and Warren, summed up the film by saying that it speaks for itself, and its power lies in the testimonies given by those directly affected by lynching through the lives of their ancestors.

In the Q&A following the short documentary, moderated by Professor Westmaas, students were eager to ask thought-provoking questions concerning the filmmakers' motives for creating the project, the amount of research they had to do regarding the issue and hopes for the use of the film in the future. Ayers and Warren both implied that the history of lynching in the South is long and cruel and deserves to be acknowledged by the public and not forgotten.

"This is something we can't pretend doesn't exist," said Ayers, touching on the gravity of the hateful and fatal crimes for the over 4,000 African Americans who were victims of documented lynchings without the protection of the government. Warren described the practice as a "tool of social control applied to anyone seen as threatening to the white supremacist society."

One particularly striking moment from the film was its opening. The film opens with several consecutive clips and images that depict pop culture imagery from the past, incorporated by the filmmakers as a nod to the mainstream nature of lynchings, for they were often public spectacles. "We wanted to get at the deeply disturbing ordinary nature of lynching," he continued, because people, generally, seem to be unaware of it.

As the filmmakers willingly shared their knowledge of the lynching phenomenon along with their experiences making the film, students were engaged in the conversation about finding this hidden truth and wanted to expand their knowledge in this concerning topic.

Ayers and Warren created *An Outrage* as a film that can be used by teachers and is short enough to allow for class discussion afterwards. Its purpose is educational yet action-driven, and the filmmakers urged Hamilton students to continue to educate themselves on the matter and stay aware of the brutal reality that lies beneath our nation's surface.

As the duo continue to tour the country, screening their film at colleges and universities, students and faculty were honored to have Hamilton selected as one of the stops in which important national issues such as those focused on in *An Outrage* can be uncovered and serve to educate audiences everywhere.

Acclaimed poet Solmaz Sharif visits Hamilton

by Michelle Chung '20
A&E Editor

"I believe in poetry that makes visible the invisible and audible the inaudible," said award-winning poet Solmaz Sharif during a reading in the Dwight Lounge on Sept. 19. In a mixture of personal reflections on her own life and profound commentary on today's society as a whole, Sharif expressed the beauty of poetry as a way to understand one's self and one's surroundings.

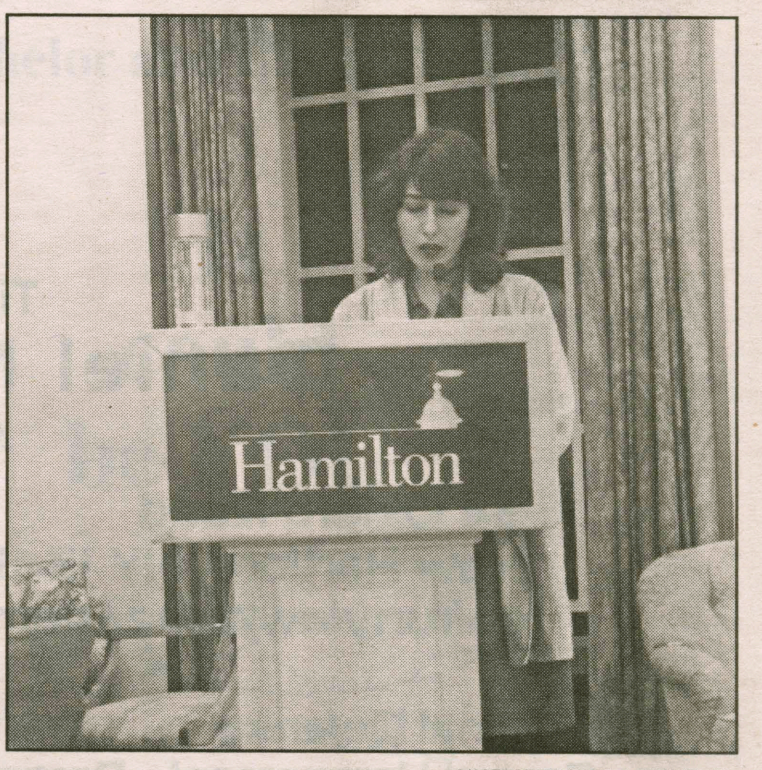
Sharif was born in Istanbul, Turkey and holds degrees from University of California Berkeley, where she studied and taught alongside June Jordan's Poetry for the People activism program, and New York University. As a National Endowment for the Arts fellow and Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award winner, her works have been featured in *The New Republic, Poetry, The Kenyon Review, jubilat, Gulf Coast, Boston Review, Witness,* and more. She currently teaches at Stanford University as a Jones Lecturer.

Additionally, her debut poetry collection, *Look*, was a finalist for the 2016 National Book Award. *Look* focuses on the consequences of warfare especially as it relates to America's invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq, using the fragmented narratives Sharif had heard from her Iranian parents. The collection also uses words from the Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms as a way to show how language affects our desire to act in violence. During the poetry reading, she read multiple works from her collection, including "Drone", "Personal Effects" and "Mess Hall."

During the reading, Sharif expressed her conflict with the use of authenticity when writing. The topic arose specifically during a discussion over coffee with members of the Hamilton community earlier that day. She mentions, "A lot of the conversation started to circle around who gets to write about what, what one's kind of relationship to the material is, and how that then decides whether or not you have some kind of ownership over that material."

Even so, Sharif admits that *Look*, alongside many of her other works, attempts to make sense of what she does not know. "I'm trying to explore [authenticity] a lot in this book because of my own relationship to war and my own relationship to the family that I write about is one that is distant." She comments, "I was raised apart from them; I was raised outside of the war that was happening and so my own understanding of it was happening from the own stories that I was hearing from family or through news media we hear."

During her piece, "Personal Effects," for example, Sharif recited, "According to most definitions, I have never been at war. According to mine, most of my life spent there." For Sharif, though she herself had not experienced such war-filled lifestyles, her pieces above are ways understanding the history she has been told as a child and "fill[ing] the silence in [her] own family." She then hopes that her pieces can be used not only by herself to better understand her family, but by others to hear a narrative that is not usually audible to the world.



PHOTOBY MICHELLE CHUNG '20

Sharif was a finalist for 2016 National Book Award.

Sharif's deep passion to understand her family's past and the history of her people is an admirable desire representative of the idea that we not only write to understand, but we listen to understand. While her pieces provide a sense of comprehension toward her own cultural identity, readers can realize the reality of lives other than their own.

"We write toward what we don't know, ultimately," Sharif expressed. "You're trying to find something and trying to name the something, and writing is born out of that desire."

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ILLUSTRATION BY HEIDI WONG

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Volleyball to take on pair of non-conference opponents on Sept. 23

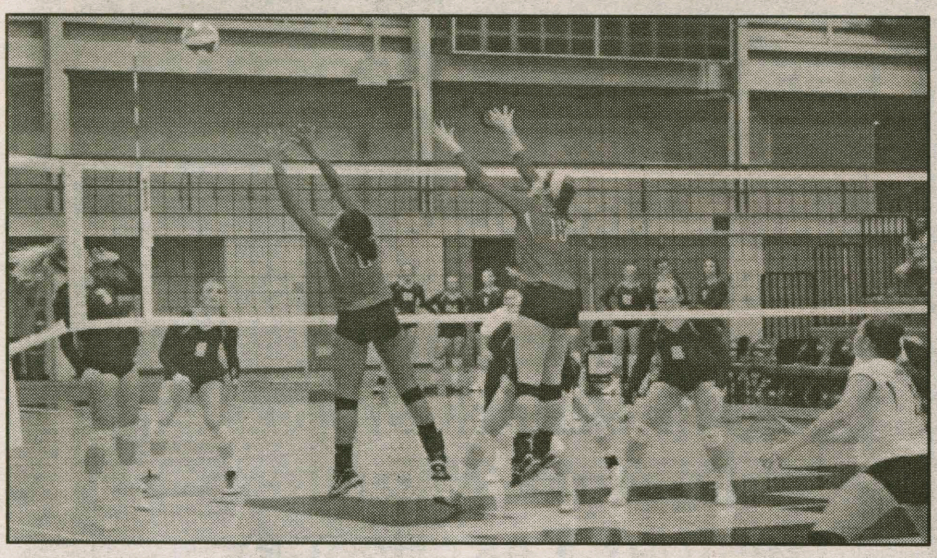

PHOTO BY JERRY TANG '21

O'Brien '18 and Brown '18 go for a block against Connecticut College.

*from **Volleyball,** page 16*

the team a threat from all sides. When asked what the biggest difference in the team is from the previous season, Zizzi offered: "This year, we have a very focused, winning culture. We're a group of girls who are all dedicating 20 plus hours a week on top of traveling for games on the weekend to play and to compete in a sport we love. We're not dedicating all that time just to lose. We want to win. Our new coaches are incredible and very dedicated to us and the sport. I think all of the girls on the team come into practice working hard because we want to make the coaches proud. We don't want to disappoint them. We want our new coaches to have a winning season just as much as we ourselves want to have a winning season."

In facing off against Wesleyan on Saturday, the team's dynamic was challenged as the Continentals lost all three sets to the Cardinals. While Hamilton proceeded to play their game, they just could not match the speed and ferocity the Wesleyan women brought to the court, sometimes going on scoring runs of 5-7 points completely unchallenged.

After the loss, the team's reflection demonstrated much about the team's dynamic and desire to win, even when challenged. Kyndal Burdin '18 spoke of the team's focus going forward, saying, "I think as a team we want to work on our confidence and starting our game strong. In volleyball, slow starts can really set the pace for a match. Mental toughness and discipline are also keys to our future success that we each individually need to work on so that we all can play our part and then as one we can reach our goals for the season." These goals were similarly echoed by Brown as she spoke about the team's adaptability, "The most important thing that we learned from this loss is that we really need work on communicating better with each other. Volleyball is a very fast game with a lot of moving parts happening at once, and in order to prevent chaotic situations we need to communicate more with each other on the court. We have also learned that we cannot afford to start off a match moving at a slow pace. We need to come out on the court moving at game speed all the time, or else the game will move too fast and we will not be able to catch up."

Despite the loss to Wesleyan, Hamilton's women's volleyball is confident they will come back with more intensity and team strength than ever before.

The volleyball team will play Morrisville State and Wells College this Saturday, Sept. 23 at Wells College at 2 P.M. and 4 P.M. respectively.

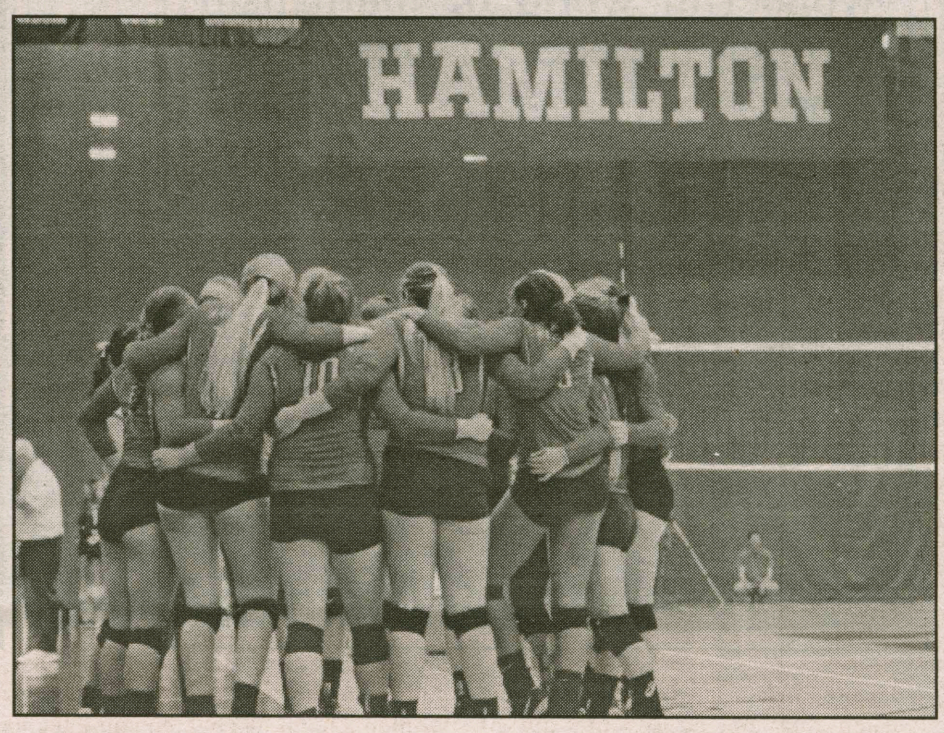

PHOTO BY JERRY TANG '21

Volleyball has stressed communication and team unity early this fall.

Joe Schmidt '20 and Tyler Hudson '19 earn honors for opening football weekend

by Patrick Malin '18
Sports Editor

	1	2	3	4	OT	F
Tufts	7	14	0	7	7	**35**
Hamilton	13	0	0	15	0	28

Despite a heart-wrenching 35-28 overtime loss against the Tufts Jumbos, two Hamilton football players were recognized with accolades for their standout performances in week one of the NESCAC football season. Wide receiver Joe Schmidt '20 and linebacker Tyler Hudson '19 were honored by the conference for dominant performances against the Jumbos, and will hope to repeat their stat lines against Amherst this Saturday.

Schmidt was named NESCAC Offensive Player of the Week for Saturday, Sept. 16's opening weekend action. Schmidt made eight receptions for 214 receiving yards, while tying a Hamilton program record with four receiving touchdowns. Schmidt's afternoon started perfectly when he broke loose on Hamilton's first offensive drive of the 2017 season. Schmidt beat a diving Jumbos' defender to the ball near the sideline before turning up field and taking the pass 70 yards to the end zone. Trailing 28-21 with under five minutes remaining in regulation, quarterback Kenny Gray '19 hit Schmidt for the 29 yard game-tying touchdown to force overtime against one of the conference's top teams.

Schmidt also displayed his exceptional burst on special teams, adding 73 yards in kickoff returns to bring his all-purpose yardage to 293 for the game. In just one game, Schmidt is just 87 receiving yards short of surpassing his 2016 season total (301 yards), while already doubling touchdown total from a season ago.

Hudson thrived in a new position against the Jumbos, wreaking havoc all afternoon on the Tufts' offensive unit. For his dominant performance, Hudson was named NESCAC Co-Defensive Player of the Week, and was also selected for the D3Football.com Team of the Week at linebacker. After playing his first two seasons for the Continentals as a defensive end, Hudson made the switch to linebacker for the 2017 campaign, and his decision has already paid dividends for Hamilton.

Hudson racked up a career high 19 total tackles against Tufts, including 14 solo tackles to lead the Continentals defense. The newly-converted linebacker picked up 1.5 tackles for a loss, and was credited with a half sack. Hudson also came up with a fumble recovery in the third quarter. Hudson's tackle total from Saturday was the most for a Hamilton defender since 2011, when Mike MacDonald '13 tallied 21 tackles against Wesleyan.

This is the second time that Hudson has been chosen for the D3Football.com Team of the Week, after making his debut on the team in his freshman season in 2015. This is the first time either Schmidt or Hudson captured the illustrious NESCAC Player of the Week honor.

In addition to Hudson and Schmidt, Christian Donahoe '20 had a breakout game at tight end in the season opener, hauling in three passes for 102 receiving yards including several clutch plays late in the fourth quarter. Gray threw more touchdowns (four) against the Jumbos than he did in eight starts in 2016 (three), and looks to continue his strong connection with Schmidt, Donahoe, and other Hamilton wideouts against the Mammoths. Marcus Gutierrez '18 led the Continentals' ground game, picking up 38 yards on nine carries against a stout Tufts defense. Cole Burchill '19 had the lone individual sack for Hamilton, one of his 13 total tackles in Saturday's loss. Justin Leigh '20 was vital in pass coverage against the Jumbos, making three important pass break-ups down the stretch.

Schmidt and Hudson hope to build off strong week-one performances in this weekend's match-up with Amherst at Steuben Field and lead the Continentals to their first victory of the 2017 season. Amherst dominated Bates 41-17 to open up the season, where quarterback Ollie Eberth dished out four touchdown passes. Hudson will be vital pressuring Eberth, while Schmidt will need to replicate his offensive fire power to keep up with a potent Amherst offense.

Hamilton golf teams impress in early season competitions

by Robert Berk '19
STAFF WRITER

This past weekend, Hamilton's men's and women's golf teams traveled for their matches. The Men's team went to Middlebury, Vermont for the Duke Nelson Invitational. The women's team participated in the William Smith Invitational in Clinton Springs, New York. It was the third weekend of play for both teams. The men's team started off the season on fire, coming in first place in the Hamilton Invitational. The team posted a four-person team score of 307 on the first day and 309 on the second. They were a full 12 strokes ahead of the second place finishers. The following weekend the team finished second at the St. Lawrence University Men's Golf Invitational. Joe Tigani '18 shot a 148 over the weekend and earned first place individually. The women's team also started the season with a strong performance. They finished in first place at the Hamilton Invitational to start their season. The team had an incredible first round as they shot a four-person score of 332, which was only 45 strokes ahead of their closest competition. Winda Wanikpun '20 earned her first career medal by shooting a 162 over the 36 holes. The team had a solid performance when they placed seventh out of 12 teams at the St. Lawrence Invitational. I asked Head Coach Lauren Cupp how she felt the start of the season was going and she said, "We've had a pretty hot start to the season, highlighted by our double win at our home tournament over Labor Day weekend. Our men's team has been very competitive the last three weekends in some outstanding fields. Our women's team has beaten some teams that they haven't beaten in the history of the program."

"Our goal is to work hard to improve individually so that we can excel as a team and program. I expect that both our men's and women's teams will be competitive in our league and will be in a position to win many tournaments."
—Head Coach Lauren Cupp

That brings us to this weekend. The men's team finished in 14th place out of 22 teams at the Duke Nelson Invitational. Their four-person score was 615 and all four golfers contributed equally. Jeremy Benjamin '19 led the way for the Continentals. He shot a 74 to start the weekend, and a 77 on Sunday. Benjamin finished in 42nd place out of the 113 golfers. Tigani shot a 154 and finished in 55th place. Andrew Watson '19 shot an identical score. When asked about the start of the season and this past weekend he said, "The first three matches have gone very well overall and we're improving as a whole and definitely moving in the right direction as a team. This past weekend at Middlebury was a tough one, but there were definitely some high points we can take away from it and we can all use it as an opportunity to work on the parts of our games that we need to play well moving forward." Bobby Osborn '20 rounded out the team's score with a 156.

The women's team played at William Smith College in Clinton Springs, New York. They had a very strong weekend. As a team they finished in third place out of eleven. For the third straight weekend, Wanikpun led the way. She shot a 36-hole total of 176 and finished in a tie for tenth place. I asked Wanikpun what her expectations were for the season and she responded, "I expect the team to grow a lot this season, hopefully with all the girls shooting consistently in the 80s and for us to hopefully beat Middlebury!" Celia Lau '21 had a great weekend, especially given the fact that this is her first season on the team. She came in a tie for 14th place by shooting a 180 over the 36 holes. Fellow first-year Sophia Archos also had an impressive weekend. Archos '21 shot a 184 and finished in a tie for 21st place. Annie McClanahan '20 tied with Archos.

Both the Men's and Women's teams have two more weekends before the NESCAC qualifiers. Matt Cesare '20 explained the importance of the culmination of the fall season, "Our team goals for the season are pretty much to qualify for NESCACs at the qualifier in 2 weeks. If we do that, we earn the right to play in NESCAC conference championship tournament in the spring." Coach Cupp sounded on the same wavelength as she said, "Our goal is to work hard to improve individually so that we can excel as a team and program. I expect that both our men's and women's teams will be competitive in our league and will be in a position to win many tournaments." When I followed-up and asked her how they would execute this she said, "We are just going to take it one tournament at a time, one shot at a time."

Men's rugby shakes off rust in opening game against SUNY-Plattsburgh

*from **Rugby**, page 16*

the dedication and determination with which the Continentals battled under the glaring sun. Rugby is a brutally physical sport by nature, and each one of our guys gave it everything they had. Will Richardson '21 expressed the toll such exertion has on the body. "When I woke up on Sunday morning, every muscle in my body was sore. Even now, I can hardly lift my arms." Despite this physical toll, the men went into and came out of the match with unbridled resolve.

"I'm incredibly proud of the way we played and what we've learned learned to work on moving forward. "
—Chris Lovejoy'18

Hamilton expected to experience some growing pains this season: "Coming off of last year we lost a lot of our zies and we knew that meant our game would change," remarked Chris Lovejoy '18. From the beginning to the end of the game, it was evident how much the Exiles improved. Lovejoy contends that, "We played a great first 40 minutes against a big, hard-hitting team with almost half our starters playing their first game ever," adding that, "I'm incredibly proud of the way we played and what we've learned to work on moving forward." As the season moves along, the team will undoubtedly continue to hone their skill and teamwork that will lead them to inevitable victory. Albino expressed his confidence, claiming that "We're gonna get in better shape, stronger and come out with some 'dubs."

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER MAILMAN '21

The Exiles showed their grit and determination in the season's first game, but ultimately fell 39-0.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
September 21, 2017

Volleyball season off to promising start with a focus on team communication

by Megan O'Hara '21
Sports Contributor

	1	2	3	4	F
Conn Coll.	**25**	16	23	16	1
Hamilton	23	**25**	**25**	**25**	**4**

	1	2	3	F
Wesleyan	**25**	**25**	**25**	**3**
Hamilton	14	20	12	0

With the first serve Friday evening at the Margaret Bundy Field House, Hamilton's women's volleyball team set the stage for a promising season. The team hosted the Connecticut College Camels who were 6-0, having lost a mere two sets so far in the season. Despite losing the first set, Hamilton bounced back quickly to win the following three sets. Dorothy Poucher '21 led the team's kills with thirteen and had a total of three aces for the match. The second set was close, at 18-16 until Meghan Wilkinson '19 and Margaret O'Brien '18 came down hard with two aces and a kill, respectively, to give the set to the Continentals. The Camels tried to rally in the third, after Hamilton's initial lead. As the score rose, it looked like the Camels might take the set at 23-22. Yet, Poucher and Courtney Brown'18 took the challenge with two fast scores to clinch the set for the Continentals. The fourth could have been anyone's game, as the Camels and Continentals battled back and forth with no clear leader in the set. That is, until Hamilton came out scoring an unchallenged five-point run. The final set closed 25-16 for the Continentals, as they sent the Camels home with their first loss of season.

Even in this early stage of the season, women's volleyball has outstanding stats and NESCAC ranked players making this year look very favorable for the Continentals. Christine Zizzi '18 leads the team with 4.1 digs per set, making her seventh in the NESCAC. Poucher and O'Brien back the defense with an average of 11 blocks each per game, and Emma Parkhurst '21 is seventh in the conference with 8.2 assists per set, making

*see **Volleyball**, page 14*

PHOTO BY JERRY TANG '21

Meghan Wilkinson '19 serves against Connecticut College.

Men's rugby team struggles against elite SUNY Plattsburgh squad on Saturday

by Cliff Musial '21
Sports Contributor

On Saturday afternoon, the Hamilton Men's Rugby Team took on SUNY-Plattsburgh's rugby team in eighty minutes of heated play. Throughout the whole match, the harsh afternoon sun beat down over the players, but did nothing to deter the Exiles' spirit despite Plattsburgh's ever-gaining lead. Despite the team's best efforts, Plattsburgh won 39-0, but Hamilton's strong defense ensured that the visitors took no points easily.

The Plattsburgh Cardinals have a great program that has not lost a game in three years, and it was evident from the beginning that Plattsburgh's men were bigger, stronger, and faster than the Exiles, but strength is not everything. The Cardinals wrestled the ball away from almost every scrum and scored multiple tries through the Exiles' tough defense. However, Hamilton's strength lay in its teamwork. Coach John Joseph ensures that teamwork and sportsmanship come first for his team, putting the players first always. According to Noam Barnhard '18, "Coach has been with us for a while now and has been a tremendous help. The team has spent most of its history without a coach, but he has helped integrate us into a new league, the NSCRO, where we play with better competition."

Christopher 'Melo' Albino '20, corroborated that the team had grown greatly, remarking that, "We learned to trust in each other. Over the past months, we've formed bonds during practice and those bonds really came through when we were out on the field."

Thus, despite the Exiles' defeat, the team came out of Saturday's game fulfilled and optimistic for the future; they held their own against a top-tier rugby team, leaving everything they had out on the field. It was incredible to watch

*see **Rugby**, page 15*

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER MAILMAN '21

Men's rugby battled a SUNY-Plattbsurgh team that has remained undefeated for three years.